

THE GILLES OF BINCHE.

Their Carnival the Quaintest of Belgian Medieval Customs.

The persistent manner in which Belgians cling to their medieval festivals and traditions is a characteristic national trait well known to those familiar with the Flemish and Walloon provinces. The survival of such popular fetes as that of the carnival procession of the dancing Gilles at Binche attests the innate love of Belgians for these picturesque vestiges of their forefathers' civilization.

The festival of the dancing Gilles of Binche is in many respects the quaintest of these popular customs. This festival takes place on Mardi Gras at the Binche, a town of Hainaut. The carnival of Binche has always been held in high repute by Belgians, but without its Gilles it would not be substantially different from that of Rome, Nice and other towns.

These Gilles, or dancing men, who form the glory of the Binche carnival, are characterized by their headdresses and bumps. The headdress is most elaborate and striking. In shape it resembles the old time top hat of our great-grandfathers. The hat is surmounted with magnificent ostrich feathers from three to four feet in length, which give to the wearers the appearance of giants. From each hat, besides, flow several wide, variegated ribbons, while the Gilles' trousers are bedecked with trimmings of real lace and ribbons to match those of the hat. Every Gilles wears a mask and a silk belt, from which hang small bells.

The entire Gilles' outfit costs from \$40 to \$50, a large sum for the peasant youths, generally selected by the carnival committee to fill the part of actors in the Mardi Gras festivities. The honor of being a Gilles is so great, however, among the gay Lotharios of Binche and carries such prestige with the local damsels that the young men chosen by the committee are only too pleased to make the financial sacrifice demanded of them.

In the afternoon of Mardi Gras the Gilles, in full uniform, 200 strong, preceded by the local brass bands and musical clubs, appear in procession and march toward the Grande place. The sight thus offered is unique in the annals of carnival rejoicings. The Gilles proceed by dancing to the tune of the band just mentioned. At every few steps they stop, bend and unbend, to heighten the effect of the ringing from the bells worn at their belts. Their streamers float to and fro and envelop them in a rainbow of ribbon. At the same time the simultaneous ringing of bells and thumping of wooden sabots on the cobblestones sound like the echo of a cavalry charge.

The Gilles have each a straw basket hanging to one side from the belt and filled with oranges. With these they bombard the spectators as they dance along. As soon as emptied the baskets are filled again by men from behind, appointed for this duty. A general battle of oranges then takes place between the Gilles and the carnival merry-makers. Finally the procession reaches the town hall, in front of which, seated on a platform, is the mayor, surrounded by the municipal officials. The Gilles then terminate the day's festivities by a general war dance, giving a prolonged exhibition of their capabilities. The public likewise joins in the fun, and soon some 5,000 persons, men, women and children, may be seen gayly waltzing around the Grande place. The sight of an entire population dressed in carnival costume and masked dancing in the open air to the music of the Gilles brass band is one not easily forgotten. The dancing continues until the late evening, when the sport is brought to an end by the mayor, who formally awards a gold medal to the Gilles who has proved himself the most expert dancer.—New York Tribune.

BONE STRUCTURE.

The Compact and the Spongy Kind and Their Strength.

Bone is of two kinds, compact and spongy. As the result of careful experiments it has been shown that compact bone is twice as strong as oak, considered simply as building material. In the shaft of a long bone it is really much stronger than this, for it is arranged on the advantageous principle of the hollow pillar, which gives the fullest resisting power with the least possible expenditure of substance.

The delicate layers and bars of spongy bone are arranged on the principle of an arch, enabling very considerable pressures to be resisted. It was found that a cubic inch of this tissue from the lower end of the thigh bone, weighing only fifty-four grains, was quite uninjured by a dead weight of 448 pounds.

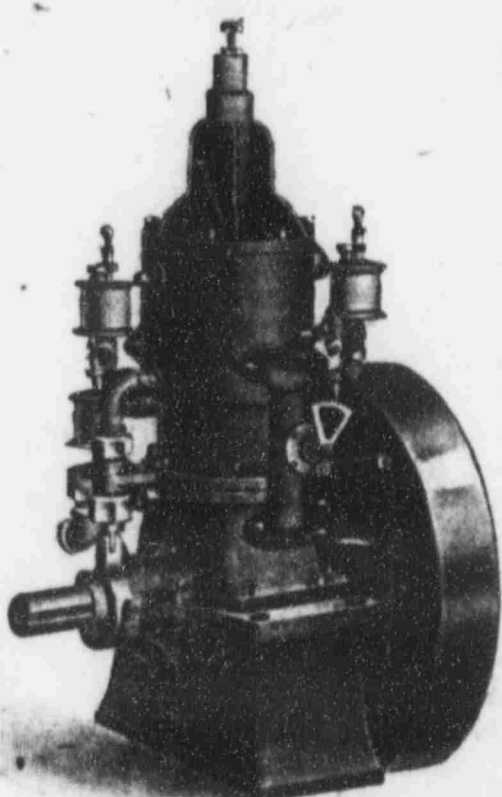
The curved bones which roof in the skull are constructed to resist great pressure, while they check the transmission of shocks to the brain. Another form of a dome, they are composed of compact bones, with a layer between. These are the "tables" of the skull. The inner tables are immensely stronger than the middle table serves as a base by which the force of blows is resisted.

MAGIC IN ZUNI TRIBE.

Friend Apparently Lifted a Jug of Water With a Feather.

"The most startling feat I ever saw," said a man who had made a study of Indians in various parts of the United States for his own edification, "was performed by the priests of the Zuni tribe in Arizona, or, as they were called, 'The Ancients of Creation.' They seat themselves in a circle on the clay floor around a jar that will hold perhaps a gallon, an ancient and sacred earthen vessel, which is filled with water. The chief priest carries in his hand two ordinary eagle feathers, which are tied together at the quill ends so that they make a fork. Behind the circle of the priests are other members of the tribe and the musicians with their drums and gourd, who join in the chants with emotion.

"The incantations continue for several hours, and when the participants and spectators are brought up to a proper pitch of excitement the priest dips the feather tips into the water, lifts the jar with them and holds it suspended for a minute or two at a height level with his face or breast. Then he lowers it slowly to the ground. This feat is repeated several times during the performance. Apparently there is nothing in the hands of the priest but the feathers, and they appear to be inserted into the mouth of the jar only two or three inches. Of course there is some trick about it, but I was never able to discover it."—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.



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Lv A M	Lv P M	Lv A M		Ar P M	Ar P M	Ar P M
7 45	2 15		Fairfield.....	1 20		6 10
7 55	2 35		Irvine.....	1 07		6 00
8 00	2 45		Dungarvan.....	1 00		5 55
8 05	2 55		Southside.....	12 55		5 50
8 10	3 00		Hickman.....	12 50		5 45
8 15	3 10		Lake Simonton.....	12 45		5 40
8 30	3 30		Micanopy.....	12 30		5 30
8 38	3 40		Tacoma.....	12 20		5 20
8 45	3 45		Kirkwood.....	12 15		5 15
8 50	3 55		Olyatt.....	12 10		5 10
9 08	4 15		Wacahoota.....	12 00		4 55
9 15	4 40		Rocky Point.....	11 45		4 40
9 45 Ar	5 00		Gainesville.....	12 30		4 10
11 00 Lv	6 15 Lv	6 30		9 20	10 10 Ar	3 00
11 35	6 40	6 53	Bellamy.....	8 55		2 30
12 00	6 55	7 05	Cyril.....	8 40		1 50
12 20	7 08	7 12	Graham.....	8 32		1 30
12 40	7 15 Ar	7 28	Sampson City.....	8 20		1 10
	9 50	10 50	Palatka, G. S. & F.....	6 50 p	6 00 a	
	8 48	8 45	Lake City, G. S. & F.....	7 04 p	7 42	
		8 10 p	Tallahassee, S. A. L.....	1 48 p		
	11 55	11 00 a	Valdosta, G. S. & F.....	4 50 p	5 20	
	8 55 a	4 20 p	Macon, G. S. & F.....	11 39 a	12 40 a	
	7 35 a	7 55 p	Atlanta, C. of Ga.....	7 50 a	9 00	
Ar P M	Ar A M	Ar P M		Lv A M	Lv P M	

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2:00 p.m. Daily	Palatka, Jacksonville, North, East and West	1:35 p.m. Daily
12:05 p.m. Daily	High Springs, Waycross, Savannah, Brunswick, Albany, Atlanta, all Points North, East West	8:15 p.m. Daily
8:15 p.m. Daily	Rochelle, Micanopy and Citra	9:55 a.m. Daily
8:50 a.m. ex. Monday	High Springs	7:20 p.m. ex. Sunday

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Lv Jacksonville, Fla. So. Ry. 9 20a 7 55p	Lv Jacksonville, Fla. So. Ry. 7 45p	
Lv Jessup, Ga. So. Ry. 11 54a 10 40p	Lv Jessup, Ga. So. Ry. 10 30p	
Lv Savannah, Ga. So. Ry. 1 30p 12 15a	Ar Macon, Ga. So. Ry. 8 00a	
Ar Columbia, So. Ry. 6 55p 6 00a	Ar Atlanta, Ga. So. Ry. 5 20a	
Ar Charlotte, So. Ry. 10 05p 9 55a	Ar Rome, Ga. So. Ry. 7 30a	
Ar Greensboro, So. Ry. 12 55a 12 51p	Ar Dalton, Ga. So. Ry. 5 25a	
Ar Danville, So. Ry. 2 05a 2 10p	Ar Chattanooga, Tenn. So. Ry. 9 45a	
Ar Richmond, So. Ry. 6 55a 6 42p	Ar Lexington, Ky. Q. & C. 5 20p	
Ar Lynchburg, So. Ry. 4 17a 4 20p	Ar Cincinnati, O. Q. & C. 7 40p	
Ar Charlottesville, So. Ry. 8 02a 8 10p	Lv Cincinnati, O. Big Four 8 40p	
Ar Washington, So. Ry. 9 45a 9 50p	Ar Chicago, Ill. Big Four 7 10a	
Ar Baltimore, P. R. R. 11 30a 11 25p	Lv Cincinnati, O. Pa Lines 8 35p	
Ar W. Phil'del'ia P. R. R. 1 45p 2 55a	Ar Chicago, Ill. Pa Lines 7 10a	
Ar New York P. R. R. 4 13p 6 30a	Lv Cincinnati, O. C. H. & D. 8 45p	
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	Ar Detroit, Mich. P. M. 7 25a	
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	Ar Pittsburgh, Pa. Pa Lines 5 55a	
	Lv Cincinnati, O. Big Four 9 30p	
	Ar Cleveland, O. Big Four 6 45a	
	Lv Lexington, Ky. So. Ry. 5 30p	
	Ar Louisville, Ky. So. Ry. 8 10p	
	Ar St. Louis, Mo. So. Ry. 7 32a	
	Ar Anniston, Ala. So. Ry. 9 40a	
	Ar Birmingham, Ala. So. Ry. 11 45a	
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	Ar Kansas City, Mo. Frisco 9 40a	
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